

Scherrer's Fire-Escape.

An improved fire-escape for shops, mills, hotels, barracks, schools and hospitals.

The wrought-iron apparatus can be erected in a few seconds by the single movement of a lever, and makes a secure and easy fire-escape, it may be constructed on the inside and cannot be distinguished from the other windows.

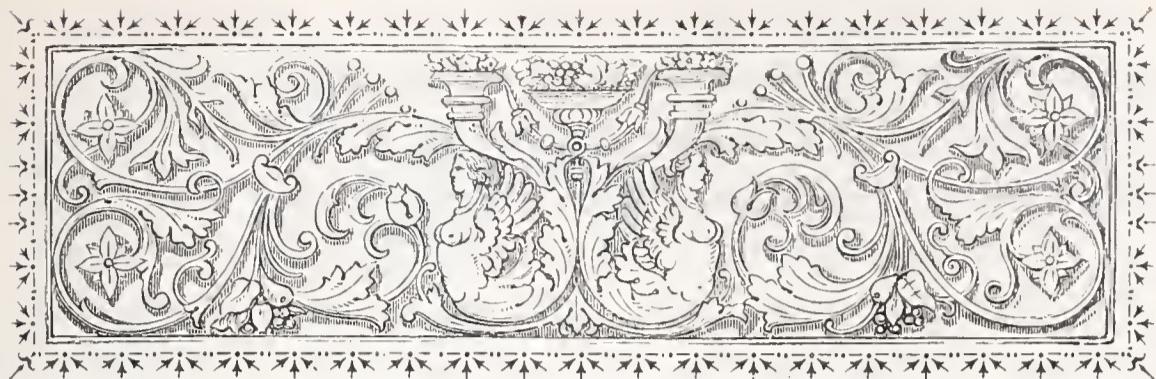
The accidents which have happened prove how defective things are in case of fire salvage and how insufficient are the means of rescuing lives, when the destructive element gets master of populous buildings. As long as people are careless and negligent, fires will occur, yet a great deal might be gained if the authorities were to succeed in increasing the means of fire salvage and thus preventing the destruction of human life. Scherrer's fire-escape affords the best means of rescue yet known.

Deutsche Rettungsfenster-Aktien-Gesellschaft

Beuel am Rhein.

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The last ten years are very rich in fire catastrophes and many hundreds of human lives were lost in the flames and when on one side these accidents must be attributed to a guilty want of precaution, the want of means of saving was a cause on the other side.

We only cite the terrible fires of the Ringtheatre in Vienna, the magazines of Kartstadt in Braunschweig, the two fires in Berlin and Rixdorf and the French theatre in Paris.

All these accidents prove how defective things are in case of fire, how insufficient the means of rescuing lives when the destructive element gets master of populous buildings.

A great deal might be gained if the authorities were to succeed in increasing fire salvage and thus preventeng the destruction of human life. This possibility of saving has been given in the best and most intelligent way by the fire-escape Scherrer.

After many years of expensive research and many alterations in the construction we possess today the fire-escape Scherrer, which renders almost impossible the destruction of human life by fire. The merit of the fire-escape is not only that it permits an easy outlet from the threatened apartments, but offers also an easy access for the firemen, especially where it is not possible to attach the ladders to rescue the inhabitants.

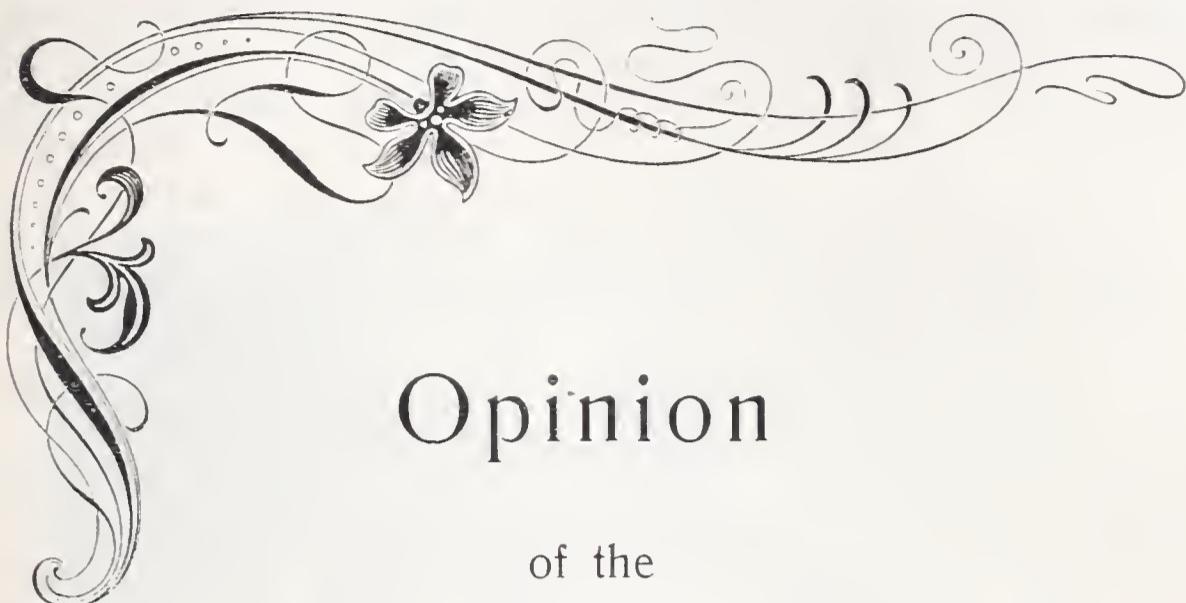
As long as people are careless and negligent, fires will occur, yet a great deal might be gained if the authorities were to succeed in increasing the means of fire salvage and preventing thus the destruction of human life. This possibility of salvation has been given in the best and most intelligent way by Scherrer's fire-escape.

The construction is based on the simple principle, that all the windows situated one above the other are connected by a bar, fixed on a pillow-block on steel bullets. On this bar is fixed on every floor a lever which permits by a single movement the opening and fixing within a few seconds, perpendicular to the front of the house, all the windows situated one above the other. This being done, a ladder placed inside each window detaches itself and slides down until it reaches the window situated beneath and forms thus in connexion with the ladder fixed on every windowsill, a ladder going from the ground up to the roof, which can be mounted without any danger.

It should be remarked especially that this ladder can be mounted within a few seconds on every floor, and that these ladders are constructed in such a way that from the outside, they cannot be distinguished from the other windows. The installation does not require many alterations in the construction of the building and can be erected on every private house or manufactory.

The following excerpts of a great many well-known newspapers give a very clear explanation of its working,





Opinion of the German press on some new installations.

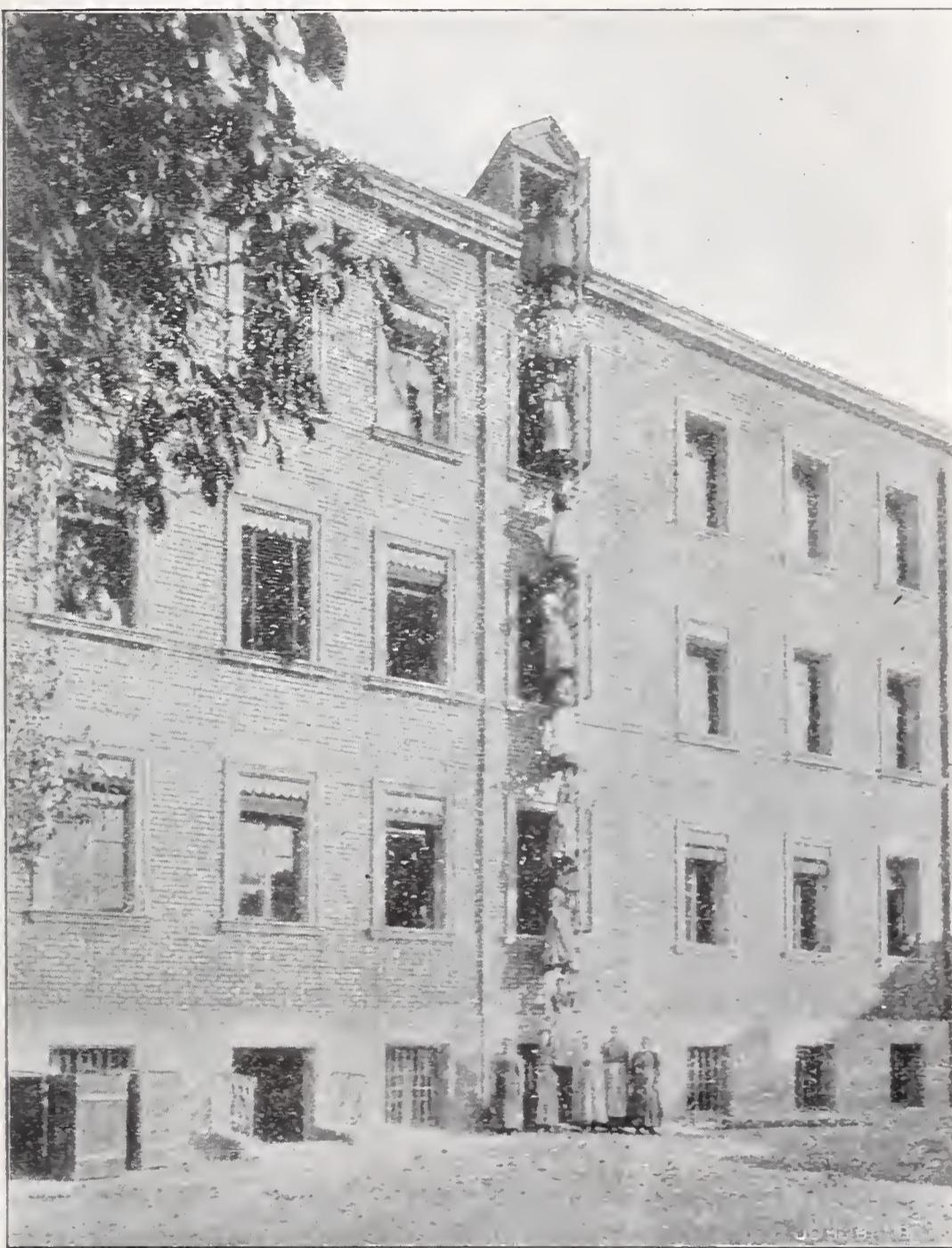
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Altonaer Nachrichten. 9 February 1900. This afternoon took place in presence of the surveyorship of buildings, the director of the fire-brigade Mr. Westphalen, besides some other officials of the fire-brigade and a great many other persons, the inspection of the life-preserver established in the coffee-roasting works of the coffee importation company Woltmannstrasse 43, 45. This is the first one of this kind established in Hamburg and it certainly will not be the last one. The greatest danger, in case of fire, consists as we know in the thick smoke on the staircases, which prevent the inhabitants getting out in time. The means of saving used until now are generally only possible with the help of the fire-men and require for their use much handiness, strength and courage. The fire-escape Scherrer is distinguished from others because it can be fixed immediately and put into action by one single person and this for all the different floors of the building. The use of this fire-escape does not offer more difficulty than the climbing down a ladder. The passage still offers, when the inhabitants of the building are saved, an easy approach for the fire-men. The construction is based on the simple principle, that all the windows situated one above the other are connected by a bar, fixed on a pillow-block on steel bullets. On this bar is fixed on every floor a lever which permits, by a single movement to open and to fix, within a few seconds, perpendicularly on the front of the house, all the windows situated one above the other. This being done, a

ladder placed inside each window, detaches itself, slides down until it reaches the window situated beneath and forms thus in connexion with the ladder fixed on every window-sill, a ladder reaching from the ground up to the roof, which can be mounted without any danger. It should be remarked especially that this ladder can be mounted within a few seconds on every floor, and that these ladders are constructed in such a way that from the outside, they cannot be distinguished from the other windows. The installation does not require many alterations in the construction of the building and can be erected on every private house, manufactory, office or theatre. As the experiments on the new installation prove, all this indicates an enormous progress in case of fire salvage. The ladder worked satisfactorily. Although the construction only started a short time ago, there are already plans of construction for the administration of the garrison of Erfurt, Magdeburg, Cassel, Ehrenbreitstein, Münster, Coblenz, Strassbourg and some others. Some of these fire-escapes will be installed soon. The following installations have been finished already: the barracks of the 2^e regiment of the guards at Berlin, the schools at Nurnberg Kapuzinergasse and the manufactories of the „Vereinigte Pinsel-fabriken at Nurnberg.“

Hamburger Nachrichten. 10 February 1900. A very interesting trial of salvage in case of fire took place yesterday afternoon in the court-yard Woltmannstrasse 43/45 on the occasion of the installation of a fire-escape Scherrer of the german company of fire-escapes at Beuel o. Rhine. Assisted officially Mr. Vivié inspector of buildings, representing the surveyorship of buildings, the inspector of the fire-brigade Westphalen and some other officiers of the fire-brigade, Mr. Prinz of Altona, inspector of the fire-men and a great many engineers, architects and other interested persons. As the installation can only be put into action from the inside, it does not offer any opportunity to climb in, as a fixed ladder does for thieves. A great avantage is still, that at the critical moment all the inhabitants of a house can be saved quickly and easily before the arrival of the fire-men who therefore are able to attack the fire immediately. The German company of importation of coffee at Hamburg has been the first to apply this invention and the directors could ascertain themselves, to their great satisfaction that the trial made in presence of anhorised persons gave complete satisfaction. The authorities and other competent persons gave a very favorable opinion about it.

Hamburger Fremdenblatt. 10 February 1900. The fire-escape worked admirably and with great safety, as we saw, the workmen climb down the ladder from the top of the house, without the least sign of fear.



View of the mills of the united pencil Manufactory in Nürnberg. Fire-escape used by workwomen.

Coblenzer Zeitung. 9 February 1900. The fire-escape has been established already in many barracks, hotels, and ought to be soon in general use, as it answers all the conditions for rescuing lives in case of fire, better than any other used until now.

Coblenzer Volkszeitung. 9 February 1900. When the signal had been given the soldiers of the third company of the 24 regiment saved themselves from the fourth floor of the high building, within a few seconds and this charged with their rifles and helmets. This proves sufficiently that the objections often made against perpendicular ladders are without any reason, because they communicate with the right angular windows situated on the front of the house. These fire-escapes are used already in a great many barracks, schools and mills, for instance in Berlin, Hamburg, Magdeburg, Nurnberg. A great many catastrophes such as the fire of the magasines of Karstadt in Braunschweig, the terrible fires of Barmen, Rixdorf near Berlin, where so many persons lost their lifes by suffocation or by jumping out of the windows, might have been avoided if the fire-escape had been used. We cannot advise people enough to take interest in this invention in order to generalize its use as soon as possible.

Blankenburger Harzzeitung. 10 February 1900. A practical exhibition of the fire-escape Scherrer took place this afternoon in the court-yard of the military barracks of the infantry. Within two seconds the fire-escape was accessible and worked very well. This interesting performance in presence of the authorities of the town and the fire-brigade. The advantages of this invention which may be placed every where, can easily be recognised. The use of it is so simple that every person is able to use it immediately. The German company pay all costs of construction.

Kölnische Zeitung. In case of fire the new invention of Mr. Franz Scherrer of Essen is worth paying attention to. The experiments proved that the new fire-escape worked promptly and ten persons were conveyed down from the third floor within $1\frac{1}{2}$ minutes. The principal advantages of this new invention are its easy and safe manipulation. The iron parts are protected against the effects of the weather, the fire-men can use it when the inhabitants are saved.

Neue Preussische (Kreuz)-Zeitung. 28 March 1899. Scherrer's fire-escape had been tried already in the barracks of the second guard-regiment. Yesterday afternoon at 1 o'clock another trial took

place this time in presence of representatives of the government and of the state, the second secretary of the department of trade Dr. Ullmann of the central section of the same ministry Intendant of the guards captain Wollmar, president of the salvage section of the imperial



Children trying to climb out a window by Scherrer's.

post-office and M. Ahrens Postoffice and building inspector of the Post-Direction in Berlin, Mr. Voigt magistrate etc. were present at the time. We can only repeat our favorable opinion on Scheerer's fire-escape after this successful trial. It is to be hoped that the authorities contribute to the general use of this fire-escape and the fire-direction

especially should pay much attention to it. Its use ought not to be a question of personal preference, but ought to be obligatory and we may hope that in all buildings the police will compel the erection of the fire-escape.

Berliner Börsen-Courier. 12 March 1899. This new invention assures without any doubt all security for saving in case of fire. Only a few seconds are necessary to render this ladder ready to work. These fire-escape may be constructed as well in private houses as in mills, hotels and all other buildings, and require very few alterations in the construction. Yesterday some experiments were made with Scherrers fire-escape, they all succeeded admirably.

Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung. 12 March 1899. Some very interesting experiments with Scherrer's fire-escape took place this afternoon in the barracks of the guards in the Friedrichstrasse, in presence of Mr. Krause, architect Dr. von Ritgen, the officiers of the regiment and many other persons. The greatest danger in case of fire is, as one knows, the smoke on the stair-cases, often prevent the inhabitants saving themselves in time. The means of salvage used until now require the presence of the fire men before they can be put into action and require much handiness, dexterity and courage. Between all these apparatus Scherrer's saving-window is distinguished by the fact that it may be put into action on every floor by one person only, and that its use does not offer more difficulty than climbing down a ladder. Moreover it may be used in different ways and the fire men may use it in order to approach the burning parts of the house when the inhabitants are saved. The use is very simple, 16 persons could be saved from the fourth floor within 72 seconds.

Fränkischer Kurier. Nürnberg, 19 October 1899. In presence of the municipal committee presided by Mr. v. Schuh, mayor of the town, some experiments with the saving windows of the „Deutsche Rettungsfenster-Gesellschaft in Beuel on the Rhine took place yesterday afternoon. Although this invention of Mr. Scherrer has had already many applications in Prussia for private buildings, hotels etc., our town will be the first one in Bavaria to adopt this kind of fire-escape. The committee inspected first of all the fire-escape constructed in the school of Karthaus. The apparatus does not only permit the in-

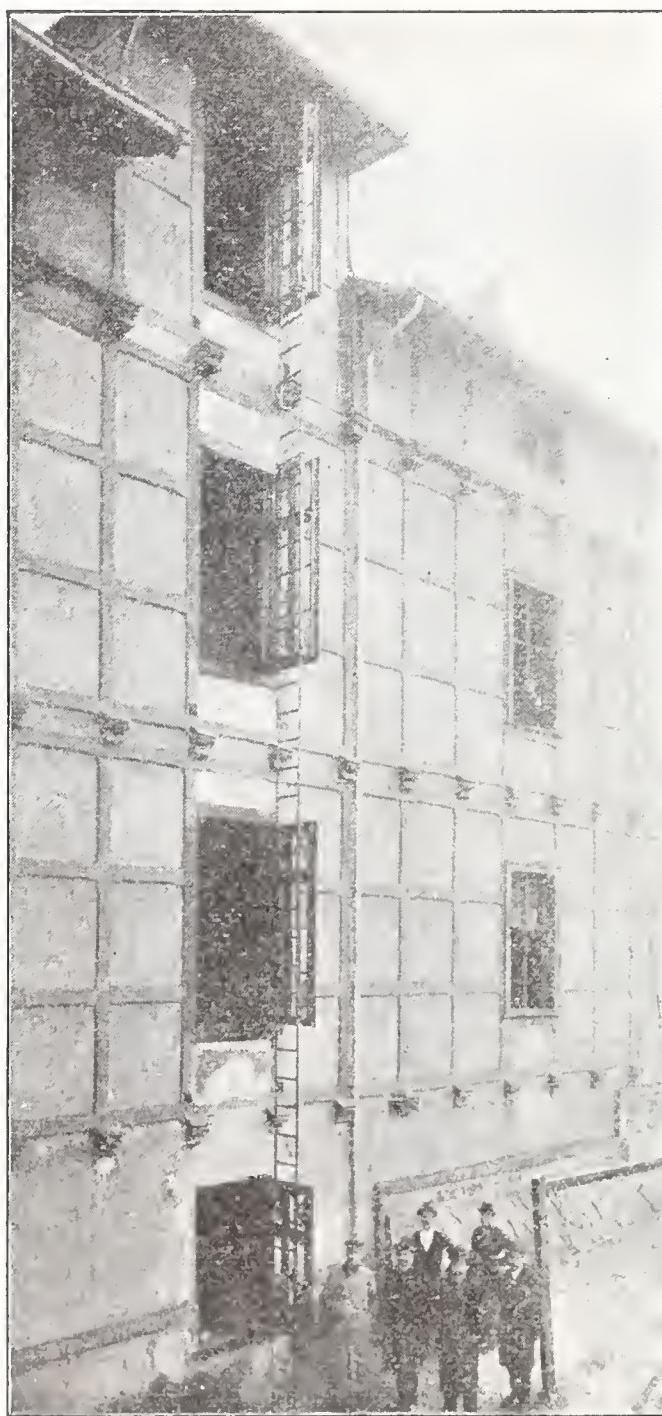
habitants to go out safely, but enables the fire-men to attack the fire, especially when the stairs cannot be used any longer. After the successful experiments in the school-building, the committee paid a visit to the „vereinigte Pinsel-fabriken sulzbacherstrasse“ where a fire-escape has been constructed too. The experiments made there were very interesting as they proved that it is not necessary to test it beforehand, the construction permits any body to use it immediately. We recommend the fire-escape especially for mills, hotels etc.



Fire-escape in the barracks of Asterstein near Coblenz, heavily charged.

Vossische Zeitung. 12 March 1899. Yesterday afternoon at 1 o'clock took place the trial of Scherrer's fire-escape in the courtyard of the second regiment of the guards Friedrichstrasse 107. Mr. Krause

commissary of police and Mr. von Ritgen architect and a great many officers assisted at the exhibition. This fire-escape is the same one that was tried last year by the Charlottenburg fire-brigade. The defects it had then have been done away with since. It differs from the other saving-apparati used at present by the fact that it cannot be seen



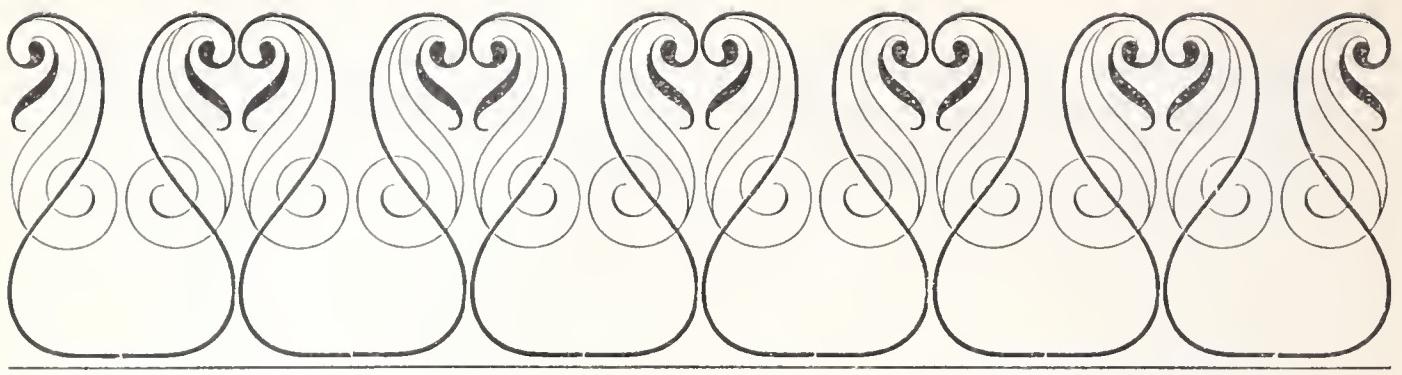
Saving-window in the barracks of Asterstein near Coblenz, without charge.

from the exterior and does not offer any opportunity for thieves or burglars to use it for criminal purposes. The experiments succeeded admirably, some soldiers, representing the inhabitants to be saved, climbed down the ladder as easily as possible. The impression of

this spectacle was so convincing that on the very spot a fire-escape was ordered to be constructed. The expenses of the construction of the fire-escape are proportionally insignificant.

Volks-Zeitung. 12 March 1899. Some very interesting experiments with Scherrer's window were made yesterday afternoon in the court-yard of the barracks of the guards Friedrichstrasse. The greatest danger in case of fire is smoke on the staircases, which often cuts off the retreat of the inhabitants. This is the reason that people have been trying for many years already to invent some new fire-escape and much of the time of some of the present fire-engine-direction has been sacrificed to settle this question; we call in mind, ladders, spring-nets, saving-pipes, and the well known „Reichenberger Rutschtuch“ which has the advantage of saving a large number at once. When fire-escapes arrive they generally require 10 minutes to erect. And even when all those apparati are ready for use many persons are necessary to put them into action. Many other inventions like saving-sails require for their use a great deal of handiness and sang froid and often they are not present when the danger is there. Among all these inventions Scherrer's fire-escape was distinguished by the fact that a single person is able to put it into action on every floor. The use of the fire-escape does not therefore offer any more difficulty than the climbing down a ladder. It may be used in different ways and permits the firemen to approach the burning building very easily.





Testimonials.

According to the desire of Mr. Scherrer Director at Beuel we are happy to state, that our work-women, climbed down by the patent fire-escape and proved the value of the ladder.

Nurnberg, December 1899.

The United Pencil manufactory

Betrieb VI., Sulzbacherstrasse 55.

Directer g. Uhl.

The fire-escape in the old barracks at Blankenburg a/H. will be finished to day.

During the trial the fire-escape worked very well.

Blankenburg a/H., the 2 of February 1900.

We state hereby that during the trial made yesterday, in presence of the surveyors of buildings and the fire-brigade, the fire-escape

worked very well. The workmen climbed down from the fourth floor with the greatest facility.

Hamburg, 10 Februar 1900.

Your obedient

The German Coffee roasting company.

The German fire-escape company asks us to certify that they hast constructed a fire-escape in the professional barracks at Alterstein near Coblenz.

For illustrated prospectus and price-lists apply to the „Deutsche Rettungsfenster - Actien - Gesellschaft“ in Beuel a. Rh.



